

# GULF DEFENDER



Vol. 65, No. 12

Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla. *Home of Air Dominance Training*

March 24, 2006

## In brief

### Internal medicine clinic closes

Tyndall Clinic's internal medicine clinic will close March 31. All current internal medicine enrollees were mailed a letter this week with more information, briefing times and locations. For more information, stop by the Tricare service center by the main pharmacy on the first floor of the clinic.

### AETC special-duty team visit

The AETC special-duty assignment team will discuss career opportunities 3 p.m. today at the Enlisted Club. The team can expedite the processing of applicant's special-duty application at the briefing. To obtain a copy of the AETC special duty application, contact the wing career advisor office at 283-2222.

## What's inside



Tyndall celebrates the Military Affairs Committee's 60th anniversary  
... **PAGES 10-11**

Airman Leadership School students graduate  
... **PAGE 15**



Lisa Norman

## Star struck

Retired Lt. Gen. Leo Marquez presents a maintenance award named after him to Airman 1st Class John Hahn, who was named the 325th Maintenance Squadron aerospace propulsion journeyman of the Year during a ceremony at the Enlisted Club March 17. For additional maintenance award winners, see Page 6.

# Maintenance group awards 2005 success

**SENIOR MASTER SGT. BILLY SIMMONS**  
325th Maintenance Group

The 325th Maintenance Group recognized their top performers recently during their annual awards banquet March 17.

"Each year the 325th MXG puts on an awards banquet to honor the previous year's outstanding performers," said Maj. Eric North, 325th Maintenance Operations Squadron commander. "Many of the winners are not only recognized locally for their hard work and talents, but go on to compete for AETC and Air Force recognition."

This event gave the group's maintainers an opportunity to put down their tools, have some fun, and reward the outstanding maintainers who give 100 percent to support Tyndall's mission.

The Aircraft Maintenance Unit of the Year went to the 2nd AMU, whose motto is "Second to None."

"Two hundred and twenty Airmen I proudly serve with are directly responsible for our success," said Chief Master Sgt. Douglas Martin, 2nd AMU NCO in charge. "The fine leadership of my junior

NCOs pushed the unit to new heights. We were able to keep our aircraft the most reliable and mission ready in the maintenance group, bar none. We scored an 'Excellent' in the Operational Readiness Inspection. We maintain jets to the highest standards, non-stop in any weather, in the 325th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron. Our efforts culminated with the 2nd AMU having the best safety record for F-15's in the world, with more than 130,000 safe hours flown in more than 22 years."

This year, the Thomas N. Barnes Crew Chief of the Year was awarded to Staff Sgt. James Eckles. Four 325th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron crew chiefs from four competing squadrons selected their best candidates to compete.

First Lt. Laura Griggs, a 325th Maintenance Squadron flight commander, was awarded the Maintenance Professional of the Year, officer category.

The 325th MXG Weapons Load Crew of the Year went to Staff Sgt. Kevin Scaggs, Senior Airman Mathew Baker, and Airman 1st Class Peter Scalise from

the 95th Aircraft Maintenance Unit.

Master Sgt. Donald Richardson, 325th AMXS production superintendent, was awarded the Maintenance Professional of the Year, senior NCO category.

Tech. Sgt. Eric Sanders, 325th MXS aerospace propulsion craftsman, was awarded Maintenance Professional of the Year, NCO category.

Senior Airman Travis Glick, 325th MXS F-15 avionics team leader, was awarded Maintenance Professional of the Year, airman category.

Master Sgt. Marion Wynn, 325th Maintenance Operations Squadron superintendent of maintenance analysis, was awarded Staff Professional of the Year, senior NCO category.

Staff Sgt. Steven Murphy, 325th MXS avionics due-in-from-maintenance monitor, was awarded Staff Professional of the Year, NCO category.

Senior Airman Katie Downer, 325th MXG weapons lead crew member, was awarded Staff Professional of the Year,

● **SEE AWARDS PAGE 6**





It’s in the bag

Staff Sgt. Shelica Jackson, 43rd Fighter Squadron information manager, inspects her gas mask carrier Tuesday as she processes through the mobility line during the base exercise.

Identify this...



Can you identify this object? If so, send an e-mail to [editor@tyndall.af.mil](mailto:editor@tyndall.af.mil) with “Identify This” in the subject line. Three correct entries will be chosen at random and drawn from a hat to select the final winner. The prize can be claimed at the Public Affairs office. The winner for the March 17 “Identify This” is Senior Airman Paul Borkowski, 2nd Aircraft Maintenance Unit crew chief. He correctly guessed it was a four-leaf clover. Come claim your prize!

ON THE STREET

Base Legal Office focus:  
If you had a \$2,000 tax return, what would you do with it?



“I would save \$1,000 and with the other \$1,000, I’d go shopping.”

SENIOR AIRMAN BROOKE LLAFET  
Military justice paralegal



“I spent mine already. I bought a motorcycle.”

TECH. SGT. ERICK JOHNSON  
NCO in charge of military justice



“My wife and I are going to take a honeymoon vacation.”

TECH. SGT. ALPHONSO OVERTON  
NCO in charge of claims



“I would take some leave and go to the Kentucky Derby.”

CAPT. ROSEMARY GILLIAM  
Chief of civil law and military justice

Gulf Defender Editorial Staff

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2nd Lt. Amanda Ferrell .....staff writer  
Senior Airman Stacey Haga.....staff writer

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Commentary

# 'Passing the torch' through ranks mentors Airmen

**LT. COL. DOUGLAS BARRON**  
325th Communications Squadron commander

It was my honor to recently tack a single white stripe on the sleeve of Tyndall's most-junior enlisted Airman. Many of you may recall when our newest Airman Basic was welcomed to Team Tyndall. It was during a base-wide commanders call in January. He rubbed elbows with dignitaries, had dinner with the wing commander, met the first chief master sergeant of the Air Force, was coined by distinguished visitors and had the AETC commander and 325th Fighter Wing leadership sing to him on his 19th birthday. In fact, some in our unit speculated, with humorous concern, whether our newest squadron member would be able to complete his first physical fitness test, given the fact that he was weighed down by all the coins he had received. He carried the coins with pride everywhere and happily provided a glimpse to those who would ask to see his rare currency. Our newest Airman began his career as most do at basic military training. These young men and women are the future enlisted leaders of this great institution. Every week you can see these brand new recruits "getting acquainted" with their new way of life. And it is just that – a way of life.

There is no other way to describe it. Everything changes when you put on the uniform. Immediately you are viewed differently and expected to act differently. Excellence, integrity, and above all, leadership are characteristics the U.S. public not only expects, but demands from its military. We are held to a higher standard. These characteristics do not miraculously appear once we don the uniform though. As we all know, it takes years to forge the skills necessary to pass to the next generation. We are, by definition, guardians over this great institution we call the Air Force – we remain dedicated to uphold its standards, perform its mission, and ensure we leave it a better place than we found it. We do this for those who have come before us, those who serve with us, and those who will follow us and to whom we will "pass the torch." We have all been offered a rare glimpse of those unique commander coins and also what will some-

day be a leader and mentor to others. I am honored to be a part of that process. And so it is for all of us as we advance through our Air Force careers. While notoriety around the 325th Fighter Wing has been enjoyable for our Airman, it is fulfilling to know we are part of a cycle that ensures that our great nation and its Air Force are in good hands. Regardless of rank, we are all leaders. You can provide nothing greater to our youngest, most enthusiastic Airman than the tools and confidence to lead.

**"Regardless of rank, we are all leaders. You can provide nothing greater to our youngest, most enthusiastic Airmen than the tools and the confidence to lead."**

**LT. COL. DOUGLAS BARRON**  
325th Communications Squadron commander

At his promotion ceremony the Airman didn't need to be reminded the notoriety he enjoyed may diminish. He said he would remain dedicated to the same ideals we had all pledged to uphold and would strive to be the best. For the same reasons we celebrated his youth and enthusiasm, it was now time to let someone else have a turn. At that moment, as we tacked that single white stripe to his sleeve, he too became part of the chain that would pass the torch on to the next airman basic.

# Don't believe the hype; leave 'spin' to the enemy

**LT. COL. DON CHRISTENSEN**  
Base Legal Office

We have all witnessed it, a straight forward question is posed to a politician. Rather than answer the question the politician "spins" his agenda. But it's not just politicians who spin. Unfortunately, spin has become a way of life in America and the entire world. Everybody seems to spin—from civic leaders, to advocates for various causes, to terrorists. In fact, it is so prevalent that one of the most popular cable news shows,

the "O'Reilly Factor," is known best for its "No Spin Zone" attempting to stop it. But what exactly is spin? I think the best definition of spin is, "intentionally placing agenda ahead of the truth." Those guilty do this a number of ways. One tactic is to never answer a question directly. Instead, a question is a launching point for "talking points." Another tactic is to attack the motivation of the questioner. The third is using certain buzz words that are politically charged. A classic example of spin can be seen

in the attacks on our handling of detainees at Guantanamo Bay. Clearly, the United States' policy is unpopular with some segments of society. That in itself is not a concern. Our system's strength is in allowing opposing views to be aired. However, instead of engaging in intellectually honest debate, the opposition has resorted to pure spin. The most obvious example is their continual allegation that we "torture" the detainees. Allegations of torture certainly resonate through the American conscious-

ness. American service members have suffered the worst types of torture whether at the hands of the Japanese during World War II or the Vietnamese during the Vietnam conflict. Our POWs were subjected to true torture, such as beatings and withheld medical care. As a consequence, we as a nation despise torture. That is exactly why the opposition uses the term – for its rhetorical impact. But a closer look at their allegation reveals the spin.

● SEE SPIN PAGE 4

## Action Line

Call 283-2255



**BRIG. GEN. JACK EGGINTON**  
325th Fighter Wing commander

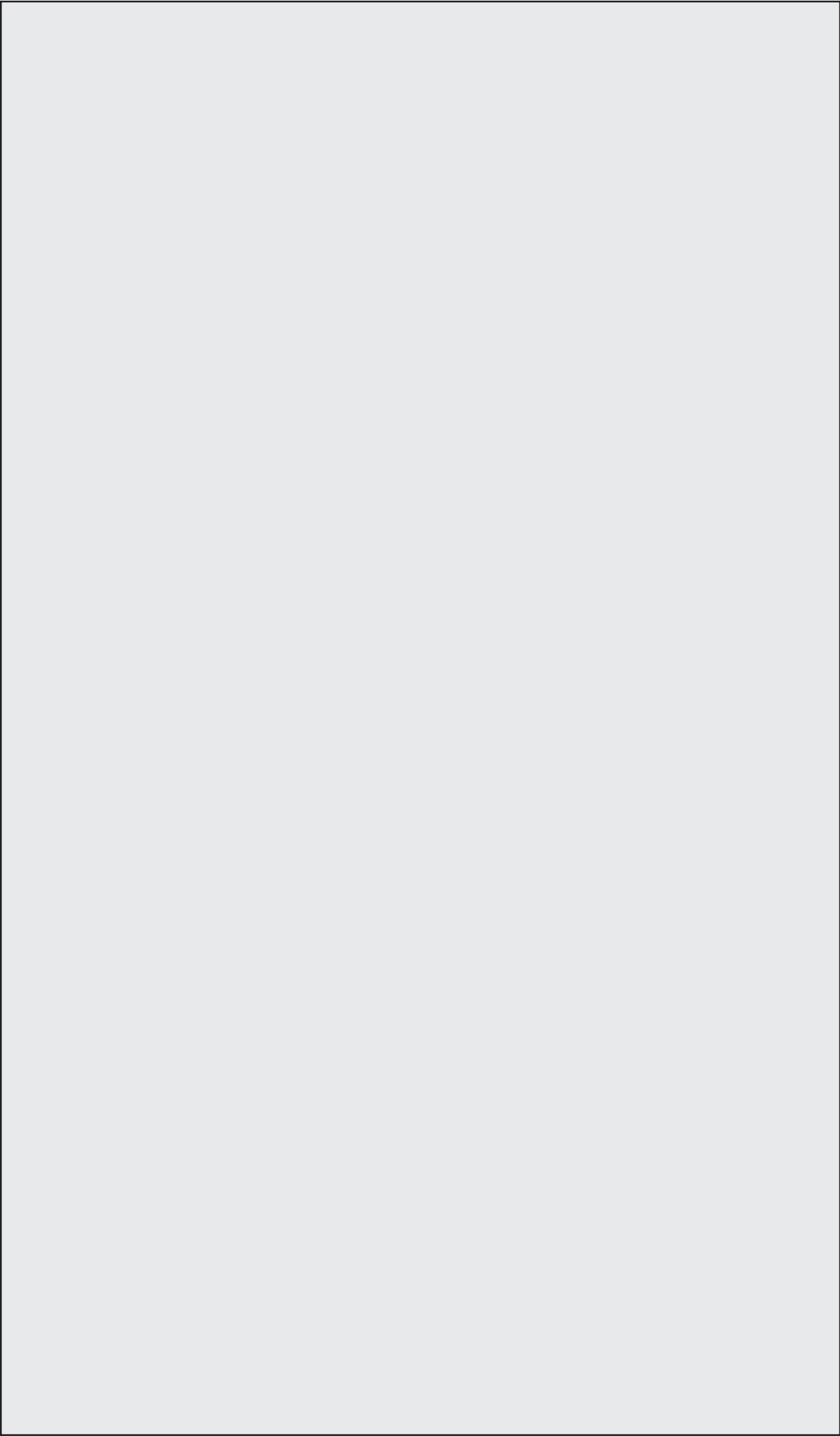
The Action Line is your direct line to me. It is one way to make Tyndall a better place to work and live. The goal is to provide you with an accurate, timely response. You must leave your name, phone number or address to receive a response. Questions or comments of general interest will be published in this forum. This avenue should only be used after coordinating problems or concerns with supervisors, commanders, first sergeants or facility managers. If you're not satisfied with the response

or you are unable to resolve the problem, call me at 283-2255. For fraud, waste and abuse calls, you should talk to the 325th Fighter Wing Inspector General's Office, 283-4646. Calls concerning energy abuse should be referred to the energy hot line, 283-3995. Below are more phone numbers that help you in resolving any issues with a base agency.

<b>Commissary</b>	283-4825
<b>Pass and I.D.</b>	283-4191
<b>Medical and Dental</b>	283-7515

<b>MEO</b>	283-2739
<b>MPF</b>	283-2276
<b>SFS Desk Sgt.</b>	283-2254
<b>Services</b>	283-2501
<b>Legal</b>	283-4681
<b>Housing</b>	283-2036
<b>CDC</b>	283-4747
<b>Wing Safety</b>	283-4231
<b>Area Defense Counsel</b>	283-2911
<b>Finance</b>	283-4117
<b>Civil Engineer</b>	283-4949
<b>Civilian Personnel</b>	283-3203
<b>Base Information</b>	283-1113

Thank you for helping me improve Tyndall and I look forward to hearing from you.



● FROM SPIN PAGE 3

Recently, it came to light that a number of detainees had refused to eat. All efforts to convince the detainees to eat were rebuffed. As a last resort, we inserted feeding tubes into the detainees to ensure they would not starve to death. This was immediately labeled “torture.” Think about that. How could we call an attempt to save someone’s life torture?

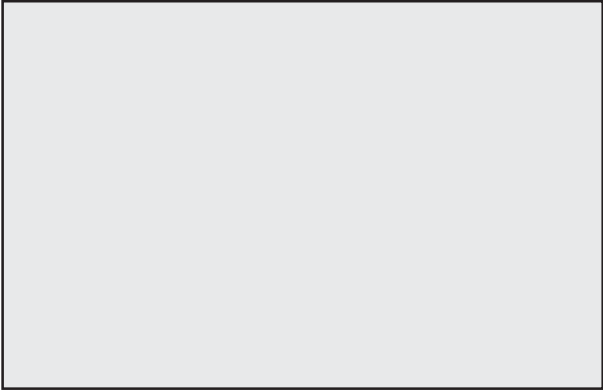
Historically, American POWs have been subjected to starvation diets, and this allegation is a slap in the face to those who died of starvation at the hands of their captors. But for the opposition, the allegation is more important than its accuracy.

In their efforts to attack our detainee policy, the opposition has at best looked to make us the moral equivalent of the terrorists. Thus, our efforts to keep a detainee alive is treated the

same as the beheading of a hostage or a car bomb killing children. The danger of this spin is it plays into the hands of our enemy. Osama bin Ladin now quotes such verbal attacks when justifying his war against the U.S.

But as Airmen engaged in the War on Terror, we must not be disheartened by this spin. We must remember that we are in the right. Our mission and methods are just. The detainees are held in humane conditions. They are provided culturally appropriate food, freedom of religion, the ability to communicate with their loved ones, and visits by the International Red Cross. Do any of the critics believe that al Qaeda would meet those same standards? If they believe there is a better way to handle our enemies, then show us the way.

In the meantime, leave the spin to the enemy.





# A general’s promise to recognize maintainers lives on

**1st Lt. J. Elaine Hunnicutt**  
325th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

In the 1960s, a young captain named Leo Marquez vowed that if he were ever in a position to recognize the work of Air Force maintainers, he would.

In the 1970s, he kept his promise by creating the maintenance professional of the year awards program while serving in the Pentagon.

“I started in maintenance in 1962, at the time we were working troops 50 to 60 hours a week, rain, shine, snow, whatever and nobody even said thank you - no recognition of any kind,” he said.

When he retired from active duty, he asked that those left behind keep the recognition program he fought to create alive. Not only did they readily agree, but they honored him by naming an award after him: The Lt. Gen. Leo Marquez Maintenance Awards.

Today, General Marquez is retired

from the Air Force but continues to inspire young Airmen by visiting bases, meeting with enlisted maintainers and giving speeches packed with decades of experience.

### Flying jets to launching jets

General Marquez started as a pilot and ended up a maintainer.

“When you are a fighter pilot you are king of the hill, white scarf and all, he said.

“But then I was grounded and I thought my career was over,” said General Marquez.

After thinking about his situation he decided on a new career path.

“I wanted to stay with the airplanes and troops, so I asked them to send me to maintenance school,” he said.

He “loved” working with the enlisted force and said his appreciation for them only grew stronger.

“What I like about GIs (is that) they will look in your face and say ‘that is

the dumbest thing I have ever heard,’” he said. “They don’t sugar coat anything; they will tell you.”

Of the two career paths, “I would tell you that the experience I treasure more is being a maintenance officer; that is where I learned what makes the Air Force go,” he said.

### Times are changing

When asked about the ever-changing mission of the Air Force and the reshaping of the service, General Marquez could only state his approval.

“We are going in the right direction – I think it is great – we are actually becoming more warrior (like),” he said. “We have got to be generalist – not specialist.”

“We use to stay back at the bases and now we have GIs out there driving convoy trucks, doing security,” he said. “It is an evolution.”


He recalls his time in Vietnam and the base defense the Army provided.

“We learned when the Tet Offensive came along in 1968 that we didn’t have any Army; they were needed somewhere else,” he said. “So there we were with a few cops; we got hit with a ground attack.”

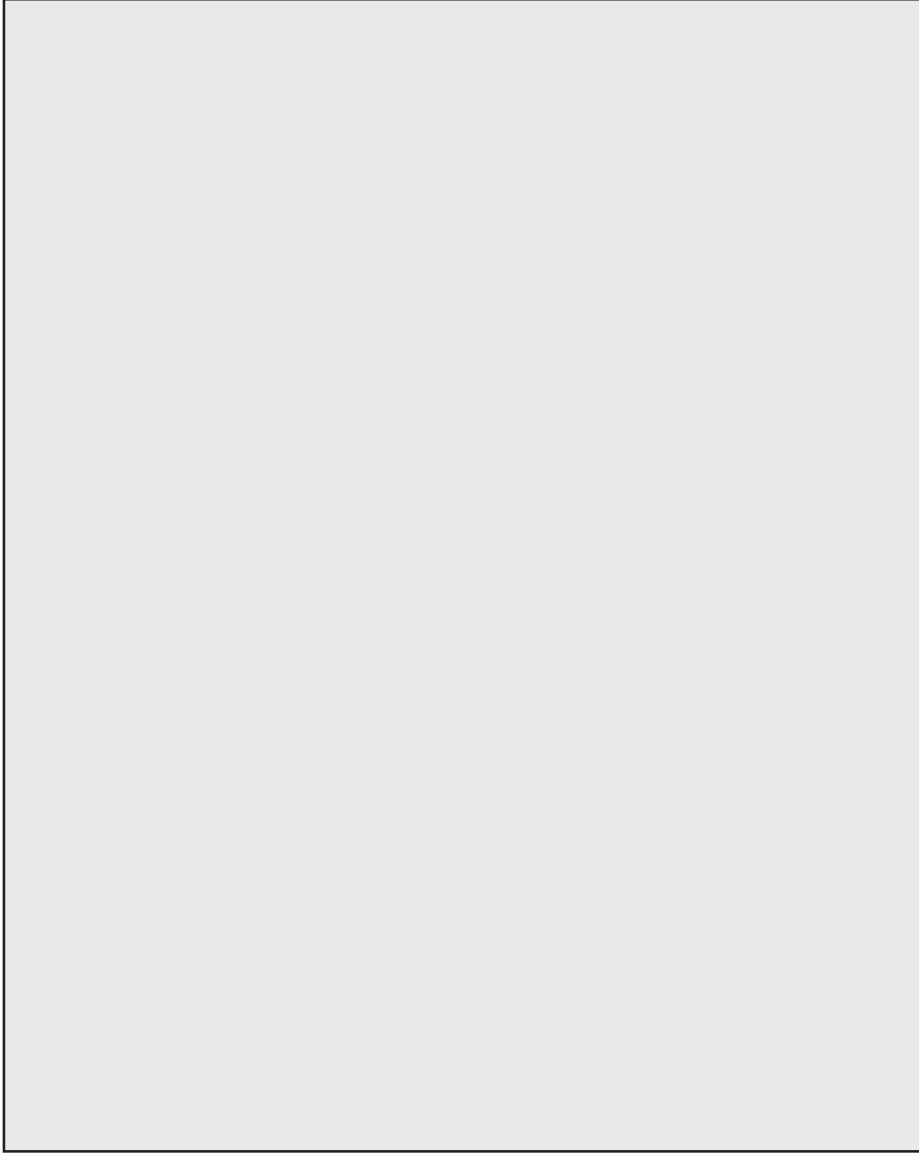
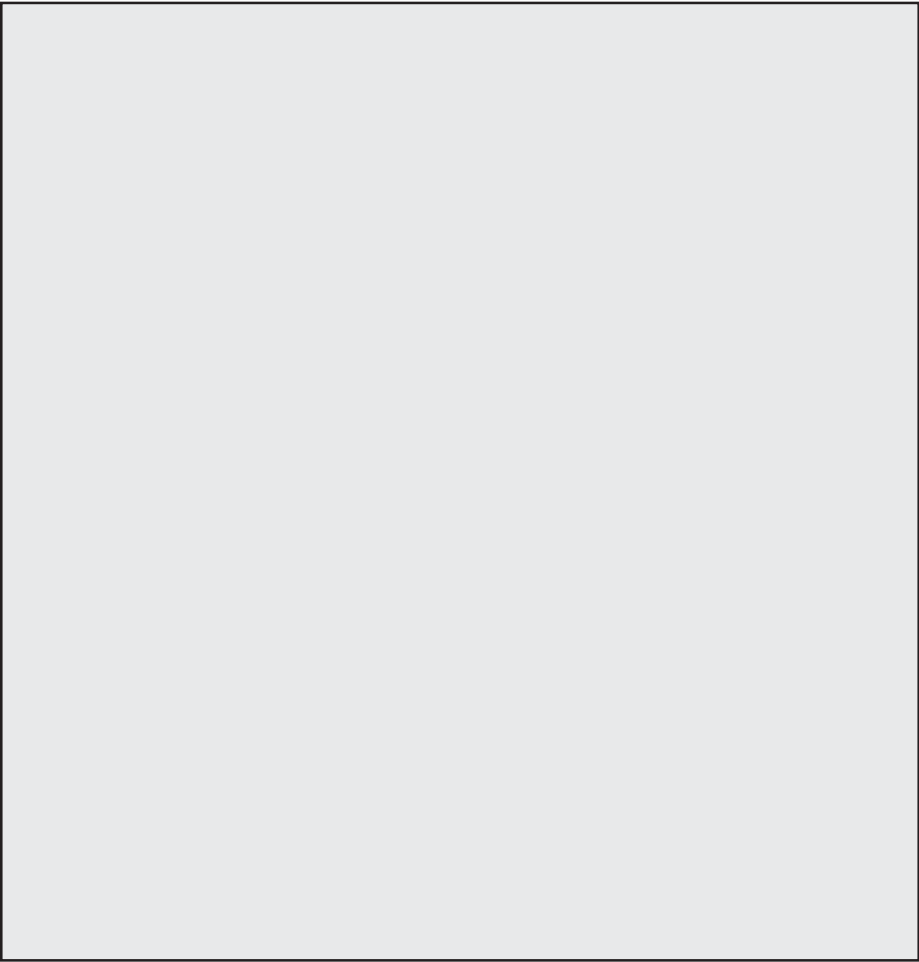
“In the first hour the lieutenant was killed, and then it was up to a staff sergeant; he was all we had left,” he said. “So we had to learn that mission of air base defense the hard way.”

In response to the Air Force’s more robust role in Army ground support, General Marquez said, “I love the Army because they get the dirty end of the stick, but they are the boots on the ground,” he said. “Anything we can do to relieve the Army of all of the extraneous stuff, so they can go out there and fire weapons at people, the better off we are all going to be; the better defense department we are

● SEE MARQUEZ PAGE 6



Tyndall’s AFAP campaign is from Feb. 27 – April 9. In it’s second week, 55 percent of the goal was met. For more information, contact Senior Master Sgt. Trina Douglas at 283-8288.



Maintenance awards

(The following awards were presented at the 325th MXG award banquet March 17)

Lt. Gen. Leo Marquez Award winners

Munitions Maintenance Technician  
Senior Airman Katie Downer 325th MXG

Munitions Maintenance Technician/Supervisor  
Staff Sgt. Samantha Whitfield 325th MXS

Munitions Maintenance Supervisor/Manager  
Master Sgt. William Johnson 325th MXS

Munitions Maintenance Company Grade Manager  
Capt. Brian Conn 325th MXS

Munitions Maintenance Field Grade Manager  
Lt. Col. Nathan Lyden 325th MXS

Aircraft Maintenance Technician  
Airman 1st Class John Hahn 325th MXS

Aircraft Maintenance Technician/Supervisor  
Staff Sgt. Ammon Hennesse 325th AMXS

Aircraft Maintenance Supervisor/Manager  
Senior Master Sgt. Michael Dye 325th AMXS

Aircraft Maintenance Company Grade Manager  
Capt. David Seitz 325th MOS

Aircraft Maintenance Field Grade Manager  
Maj. Ronald McAfee 325th AMXS

Aircraft Maintenance Civilian Technician  
Mr. Fred Leisure 325th MXS

Aircraft Maintenance Civilian Manager  
Mr. Robert Taylor 325th MOS

Lance P. Sijan Award winners

Junior Enlisted  
Tech. Sgt. Brian McLelland 325th MXG

Senior Enlisted  
Senior Master Sgt. Jose Perez 325th AMXS

Junior Officer  
Capt. Rognald Christensen 325th AMXS

General Lew Allen Award winners

Senior Master Sgt. Timothy Carpenter 325th AMXS  
Capt. Leonard Shores 325th AMXS

● FROM AWARDS PAGE 1 maintenance, was awarded the 325th MXG Maintenance Professional of the Year, Defense Support Services category. Tech. Sgt. Shawn Sage and Staff Sgt. Misty Phipps, Det. 4/372nd Training Squadron instructors were awarded

airman category. Charlotte Jolly, 325th MXG contractor, was awarded Staff Professional of the Year, civilian category. David Christian, 325th Operations Support Squadron lead mechanic for low- observeable

Training Instructor of the Year, senior instructor category and junior instructor category, respectively. “I can’t stress enough how phenomenally successful this year’s event was,” said Major North. “Everything was first class and I can’t wait until next year!”

● FROM MARQUEZ PAGE 5 going to have.”

Chin up

One piece of advice he leaves behind is to see beyond the bad press. “You have to disregard 90 percent of what you hear in the media; if all of the info you had was coming from that (source), you would think that we were in a terrible disaster over there – that we are doing everything wrong – no one ever reports the good stuff,” he said.

“You have to remember to discount most bad press because we are doing good work over there, and we are doing it for a good reason,” he said. “In the cold war, we fought for a simple reason ... we wanted to fight them over there and not on the shores of California – so we are in a different war now, (but the reasons remain the same),” he continued.

Advice for the future force

“Develop yourself to ‘be everything you can possibly be.’ I don’t know why

the Army got rid of (their motto),” said the general.

“Take advantage of training, education and technology. We have chiefs out there walking around with masters degrees; a chief I met the other day was several hours short of a PhD; where else can you get this?” he asked. “You can’t get that on the outside; this is the place to be.”

General Marquez pulls from his own experience to illustrate his point – take advantage of the opportunities.

“I didn’t start out to be a logistician– maintenance, supply, transporter, system manger,” he said. “In that process I became a logistician, and there is nothing in the logistics world that I haven’t been involved in.”

He fondly refers to himself as the “accidental logistician.”

“I went where the Air Force sent me and worked as hard as I could,” he said. “If I would have tried to plan my whole career myself, I would have screwed it up.”



# Air Force chief of staff sends ‘Letter’

SAN ANTONIO (AFPN) — In his latest “Letter to Airmen,” Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. T. Michael Moseley remembered the third anniversary of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The March 19 anniversary marked the removal of an oppressive and dangerous regime, and the culmination of a joint and coalition intense effort on land, air and sea.

“Your innovation and flexibility made the difference, whether it was Airmen decisively striking Republican Guard formations; in orbits over every Iraqi airfield; embedded with ground forces; launching and orbiting satellites high overhead; controlling armed unmanned aerial vehicles; or airlifting critical supplies and troops,” General Moseley wrote.

General Moseley thanked Airmen for making a difference and for their tireless efforts.

”You are protecting America by monitoring intelligence, sitting alert, and flying patrols over our cities. By protecting our homeland and fighting the enemy on their turf, you are keeping your family, friends, and the American public safe. Our mission is to fly and fight and win our nations’ wars – and you’re doing just that,” General Moseley wrote in his letter.

## FOD Finder of the Month



Staff Sgt. Alan Lawson, F-22A crew chief, conducts a preflight inspection. Sergeant Lawson is the Foreign Object Damage Preventer of the Month for February. He found a rivet by the jets. Congratulations, Sergeant Lawson!

Chrissy Cuttita



Associate Spotlight

Tech. Sgt. Christopher August



Isaac Gibson

**Sergeant August receives the Associate Spotlight award from 1st Lt. Christopher Reese, 372nd Training Squadron Detachment Commander.**

The Checkertail Clan salutes Sergeant August for troubleshooting persistent F-15 malfunctions and for using real-world repairs to teach mission ready airmen vital skills. He also promoted the Save Your Life program to others in his unit raising fitness test scores and morale.

**Duty title:** F-15/F-22A armament instructor  
**Time in Service:** Ten years, five months  
**Hometown:** Barefoot Bay, Fla  
**Hobbies:** Golfing, fishing and spending time with my family  
**Favorite book:** "The Invisible Man" by Ralph Ellison  
**Favorite movie:** "A Time to Kill"  
**Favorite thing about your unit:** The impact we have on the future of the Air Force, shaping young minds  
**Goals:** Get accepted into OTS and complete my master's degree  
**Proudest moment in the military:** Winning and representing USAFE during an international weapons loading competition

*The Associate Spotlight is a 325th Fighter Wing commander program designed to recognize a Warrior from one of Tyndall's tenant units. Supervisors can nominate individuals via their squadron and group commanders. Award recipients receive a certificate from the wing commander and other items presented by their unit.*

UNDER CONSTRUCTION


Phase II construction is nearing completion at the Sabre Gate.

Beginning Monday, traffic will be re-routed to allow for phase III construction to begin. This work encompasses the paving of the Sabre Gate entrance requiring complete shut down of inbound and outbound lanes. Work is expected to last approximately seven days with an anticipated opening for traffic on or about April 3.

During the gate closure, inbound traffic will continue to use the School Road Gate. All outbound traffic exiting the base from the housing area, golf course, marina and Youth Center will be diverted off Sabre to Dejarnette Road to Beacon Beach Drive where they must exit through the Illinois gate.

Checkertail Salute

Airman 1st Class Ryan Bailey



Lisa Norman

**Airman Bailey receives the Checkertail Salute Warrior of the Week award from Brig. Gen. Jack Egginton, 325th Fighter Wing commander.**

The Checkertail Clan salutes Airman Bailey, 325th Air Control Squadron. He completed pilot simulator training in a record two weeks, setting the example for other Airmen in his flight. He also spends off-duty time volunteering in the community.

**Duty title:** Pilot simulator technician  
**Time on station:** Nine months  
**Time in service:** One year, two months  
**Hometown:** Princeton, W.Va.  
**Hobbies:** Playing basketball and cards, watching movies  
**Pet Peeves:** Laziness and liars  
**Favorite book:** "The Da Vinci Code," by Dan Brown  
**Favorite movie:** "Old School"  
**Favorite thing about Tyndall:** The beaches  
**Goals:** To finish college  
**Proudest moment in the military:** Receiving this award

*The Checkertail Salute is a 325th Fighter Wing commander program designed to recognize Tyndall's Warrior of the Week. Supervisors can nominate individuals via their squadron and group commanders. Award recipients receive a certificate, letter from the commander and a one-day pass.*

The Gulf Defender is published for people like Senior Airman Jason Hanks, 325th Maintenance Group weapons standardization evaluator.

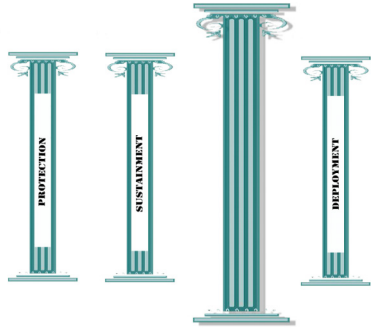




Remember Your Wingman



FORCE TRAINING



Training Spotlight

What has been the most useful lesson or advice given to you by an instructor pilot during a debrief?

“To never give up. It was after my basic fighter maneuvers and air combat maneuvers flights. With those rides, you need that kind of mindset.”



1ST LT. JOSEPH GOLDSMITH  
2nd Fighter Squadron B-course student

Giving to others builds student leadership

2ND LT. AMANDA FERRELL  
325th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Community service may look impressive on performance reports, but students at Airman Leadership School volunteer for reasons more meaningful than “putting a check in the box.”

Loaves and Fishes is a nondenominational organization founded and operated by local churches throughout the U.S. The mission is to provide meals to local people in need.

“Participating in the program is a great way to build relations between the base and the local area, said Master Sgt. Rhonda Martin, ALS flight chief.

“I think we develop a great working relationship with the people in our community by giving back to them in times of need,” said Senior Airman Joe Freiesleben, ALS student. “We support them just like the community supports us when we go to Iraq or Afghanistan.”

Community service projects can also be a humbling experience for some Airmen and often develop strong camaraderie with fellow students.

“It’s a good program because you help feed the less fortunate, and that experience makes me want to work hard and appreciate everything I have,” said Senior Airman Kelly VanAmburg, ALS student.

The current ALS class has volunteered for Loaves and Fishes for the

past three weekends. Students arrive at a local church where food is prepared and assembled into bag lunches. Forming an assembly line, volunteers load the lunches into a van. After the meals are loaded up, the students ride around Panama City delivering needed food and support to the less fortunate.

“It was an incredible experience to see that just by putting together bagged lunches, we could make such a difference in the community,” said Senior Airman Christopher Moody, ALS student. “The look on the recipients’ faces was something I’ll never forget.”

The experience motivated students to pursue other volunteer opportunities and to encourage their peers to participate in similar programs.

Airman Moody has plans to seek out opportunities and volunteer in the future and said that, “If you just participate for one day by volunteering for something that’s important to you, you can really make a huge difference.”

“You never know what type of im-



2nd Lt. Amanda Ferrell

Senior Airmen Chris Moody, James Smith and Kelly VanAmburg, ALS students, prepare lunches for local families in need through the Loaves and Fishes community service project.

pact you have on someone’s life until you go out into the community and see the looks on people’s faces or their reactions when you give them something they can’t afford on their own,” said Airman Freiesleben.

The students graduated from ALS Wednesday. While they will all go separate ways in the Air Force, most will take the same lesson back to their units.

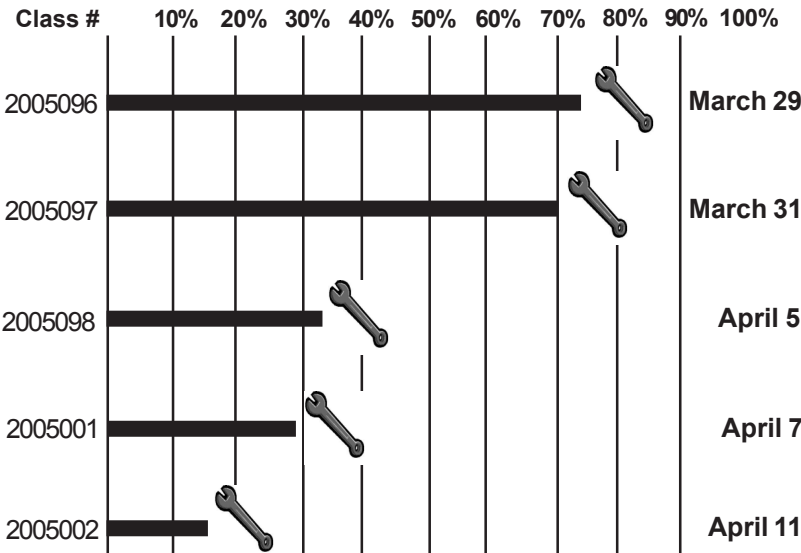
“When I saw how gracious the recipients were about us coming out there, it made me feel like I made a difference in their lives,” said Airman Freiesleben. “I’ve learned that there’s something bigger than myself out there.”



2nd Lt. Amanda Ferrell

Airman 1st Class Thomas Oliver, 325th Operational Support Squadron air traffic control apprentice, scans airspace and identifies aircraft in the landing pattern to ensure their gear is down as they approach the runway.

Mission Ready Airmen (F-15 Eagle crew chiefs) student progress chart





# Bay County, Tyndall celebrate 60 years of



Lisa Walters and Larry Dantzler, a MAC member, cut the MAC's 60th Birthday cake here March 15. Nearly 200 MAC members joined military members from Tyndall in celebration of the partnership.

Tyndall celebrated 60 years of friendship and service March 15, as the Military Affairs Committee recognized their birthday here.

“The Bay County Military Affairs Committee met at a Chamber of Commerce board meeting March 15, 1946 when several board members decided that a separate committee should be formed to handle military relations with the business community,” said Chris Ashley, Bay County Chamber of Commerce director of governmental affairs.

The mission of the military affairs committee is to develop and support the good will between the military and women in uniform and local business and industry.

“Military members serving here at Tyndall Air Force Base Support Activity (Panama City) have become an important part of our community by being involved in the system as parents, students and volunteers. We value their talents as volunteers with various charitable organizations, their spouses joining our local workforce, and embracing this community,” said Lisa Walters, Bay County Chamber of Commerce MAC chairperson.

The committee aims to handle any problems that arise in the patriotic community and we recognize and appreciate the sacrifices our servicemen and women make for us all. The installations have a tremendous impact on our local economy as well.”



Nancy Bednar, wife of Bryon Bednar, Headquarters Air Force Civil Engineer Support Agency executive director, celebrates the MAC birthday with an Air Force reserve band “The Blue Notes” performer.



Brig. Gen. Jack Egginton and Herm Bell, 325th Fighter Wing public affairs department, presented a token of Tyndall's appreciation for 60 years of partnership.



# ture of friendship, service

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base and the community. The benefit of the MAC is immeasurable to Tyndall; it represents a large group of the community who are ready to help the base get things done.

“We hope the Airmen know this community supports them, their mission and their families, and that they carry the knowledge of our appreciation and gratitude with them after they leave Tyndall and serve around the globe,” Ms. Walters said. “Over the years, we’ve found that many Airmen leave knowing that when they complete

their service and they are ready to transition into civilian life, Bay County is a great place to live, work and play. Many of them return here to make this their home.”

The committee expanded to 15 members after forming in 1946, and they began to host social gatherings for military members and dignitaries at MAC members’ homes. The MAC members divide the costs for every function, and their membership continues to grow.

“Our membership has grown from the original dozen members in 1946 to almost 300 members in 2006,” Ms. Walters said. “We have made efforts to become involved in supporting the missions around the country that directly relate to the missions located here in Bay County.”

“Sixty years ... let’s think about that,” said Brig. Gen. Jack Egginton, 325th Fighter Wing commander, during the ceremony. “That is a tremendous record of outstanding community support from all our friends in Bay County.”

*(Compiled by the 325th Fighter Wing Public Affairs.)*



**Above and Below:** The Air Force reserve band “The Blue Notes” performed swing-style music for the celebration.



uty chief, give Lisa Walters a picture as a



Col. Ed Daniels, AFNORTH vice commander, and Canadian Forces Brig. Gen. Marcel Duval, Continental U.S. North American Aerospace Defense Command Region deputy commander, talk with a local MAC member Steve Wiggins.



## Briefs

**Officer leadership program**

Department of Defense has allocated a minimum of two Air Force nominees to participate in the 2006 Executive Leadership Development Program scheduled to begin in September. This program is for highly-motivated active-duty officers who have an interest in moving into senior management positions. To be eligible, an officer must be a major and have completed Squadron Officer School, Intermediate Developmental Education and successfully occupied a flight-or-above command position. Personnel must apply to HQ AFPC/DPAFE no later than March 31. Contact the MPF customer service element for further questions on program applications.

**TRICARE town hall briefing**

The 325th Medical Group Tricare Operations office will co-host a city-wide Tricare Town Hall Briefing from 6–8 p.m. April 18 at the Tyndall NCO Academy. This briefing is open to all Tricare and Tricare For Life beneficiaries who are interested in their health-care program. The Medicare Part D prescription plan and skilled nursing versus long-term care will also be discussed. Parking is available directly across the street near Burger King. For additional information, call 283-7331.

**Virtual obstacle course**

A fitness workshop will be held at 3 p.m. today at Heritage Park and continue every Friday. Learn how to create a training plan for any environment. For information, call Lt. Col. (Dr.) Dan Kulund at 283-7717.

**OSC fundraiser**

The Tyndall Officers' Spouses' Club will hold a "Time, Talent, and Treasure Auction" starting at 5:30 p.m. today at the O'Club. This event is open to all ranks. The silent auction will be from 5:30–7:30 p.m. followed by the live auction at 8 p.m. An optional dinner will be served from 6:30–7:30 p.m. The cost of the dinner is \$16 per person or \$30 per couple. Please RSVP to Geraldine at 871-1895 or rgtraver@netzero.com. Proceeds from this event provide aca-

demic scholarships for military dependents of all ranks. For information, call Lisa Pratt, at 248-1214.

**Thrift Shop hours**

Consignments are collected from 9:30–11:30 a.m. Wednesdays through Thursdays. The Thrift Shop is in Bldg. 743, across from the Post Office. Personnel with PCS orders may consign 80 items, of which 40 may be in-season clothing. Members can consign once 60 days prior to departure up to 60 days after arrival, by appointment. A copy of the PCS orders are required. For more information, call 286-5888.

**Airman's Attic**

Family Services and the Airman's Attic are open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday–Friday in Bldg. 747. For more information, call 283-4913.

**Giant book sale**

The Naval Support Activity Panama City Navy Exchange is hosting a book sale during regular exchange hours today–April 2. All Department of Defense identification card holders and others with base access privileges can participate in this sale. For more information, call the NEX at 235-3309.

**GCCC closes for Spring Break**

Spring break for Gulf Coast Community College students is March 27–April 2. All GCCC offices will be closed Thursday–April 2. The summer

and fall schedules will be available April 10 with early registration from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. April 12 at the Tyndall Education Center. For more information, call 283-4332.

**Work-study position at GCCC**

The Gulf Coast Community College Tyndall office has a work-study position open. Gulf Coast students receiving federal financial aid and taking six credit hours qualify for the work-study position. The position is 20 hours a week, 4–8 :30 p.m. Monday–Thursday and 4–6 p.m. on Friday. For more information call 283-4332 or stop by room 45-A at Tyndall's Education Building.

**GCCC placement test**

The Tyndall Center of Gulf Coast Community College's placement test is scheduled at 1 p.m. on April 5. For more information, call 283-4332.

**Soccer referee course**

A soccer referee course will be offered 6–9 p.m. Tuesday–March 30 and April 4–6. The course is open to anyone at least 13 years or older. The initial course registration fee is \$30. For more information contact Senior Airman Atherton at 774-1649 or 282-4707.

**New Burger King hours**

Effective Thursday, Burger King's hours of operation have changed to 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday–Saturday and they will be closed Sundays.



Courtesy photo

**Blast off!**

Neal Darnell's Flash Fire Jet Truck will race down the runway at Tyndall's Gulf Coast Salute Open House April 22-23. Powered by a Westinghouse J34-48 engine, the jet truck is capable of exceeding 300 mph.

**Catholic services**

Daily Mass, 11:30 a.m.  
Monday–Friday,  
Chapel Two  
Reconciliation, before Saturday Mass or by appointment  
Saturday Mass, 5 p.m.,  
Chapel Two  
Sunday Mass, 9:30 a.m.,  
Chapel Two  
Religious Education, 11 a.m.,  
Bldg. 1476

**Protestant services**

Traditional worship service, 9:30 a.m., Chapel One  
Contemporary worship service, 11 a.m., Chapel Two  
Wednesday Fellowship, 5 p.m., Chapel Two

(For more information on other services in the local area, call the Chaplain's office at 283-2925.)





Chrissy Cuttita

High flight

Jacob Cullers slams the ball over the net during a 325th Mission Support Squadron volleyball team practice March 14 at the fitness center. The intramural season started Monday and ends April 27.

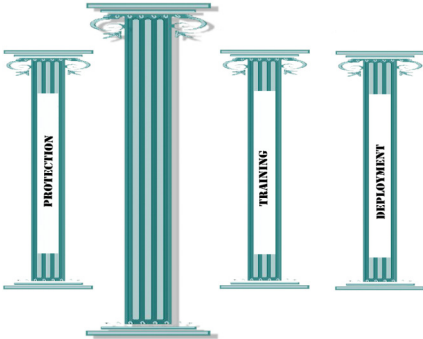


2nd Lt. Amanda Ferrell

Going green

Staff Sgt. Brandon Danford, Headquarters Southeast Air Defense Sector heating, ventilation, and air conditioning journeyman, practices his swing at the driving range. The intramural season starts in April. For more information, contact the fitness center at 283-2631.

FORCE SUSTAINMENT



Intramural Sports Standings

Soccer

Team	W	L	Team	W	L
OSS	4	0	COMM	2	3
372 TRS	3	0	TEST	1	2
MDG	3	1	83 FWS	1	3
MXS	2	2	MSS	1	3
ACS	2	2	53 WEG	0	3
AMXS	2	2			

Volleyball

Team	W	L	Team	W	L
OSS	2	0	372 TRS	0	0
MXS	1	0	ACS 2	0	0
CONR	1	0	CPTS	0	1
SEADS	1	0	MSS	0	1
AFCESA	1	0	AFRL	0	2
ACS	1	0	CES	0	2
83 FWS	1	0	COMM	0	2

Bowling

Team	W	L	Team	W	L
601st 2	144	80	CS 1	110	114
SFS	143	81	RED HORSE	108	116
AMXS	138	86	CES	108	116
MXS - Phase	138	86	AMMO	106	118
1st AMU 3	133	91	ACS 1	104	120
1st AMU 2	131	93	NCOA	104	120
IAM	128	96	601st 1	104	120
MSS 2	124	100	53rd WEG	100	124
MSS 1	122	102	83 FWS 2	98	126
MXS 1	122	102	CONS	95	129
Test	122	102	ACS 2	94	130
AFCESA	116	108	CS 2	94	130
OSS	116	108	MOS	89	135
1st AMU 1	115	109	AAFES	86	138
83 FWS 1	113	111	Med Gp	84	140
SVS	111	113	1FS	76	148

Sweet 16 is announced  
Who do you think is going to be elite?

UConn	Duke
Washington	LSU
G Mason	W Virginia
Wichita St	Texas
Villa Nova	Memphis
GC	Bradley
Florida	Gonzaga
G'town	UCLA

Send all comments to [editor@tyndall.af.mil](mailto:editor@tyndall.af.mil).



# AF changes will affect total force, finance no exception

**2ND LT. AMANDA FERRELL**

325th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

The comptroller squadron here provides customer service to more than 18,000 active-duty Airmen, retirees, and Department of Defense civilians in the Bay County area on an annual basis.

Customers will soon be helping themselves by using on-line services and a toll-free call center for all financial services.

"The transformation in the Air Force is alive and real," said 1st Lt. Robert Bravo, 325th Comptroller Squadron financial services flight commander. "Directives are transforming the current financial management system. We will see the end of Financial Services Offices and the advent of a 1-800 call center to address any financial concerns members have."

With the tax season upon us, the finance office has seen an increase in customer queries.

"During tax season we make sure people get myPay pins established," said Airman 1st Class Branden Belush, 325th CPTS special actions technician. "We also fix incorrect W2s. We suggest all active-duty members come in and establish a myPay pin number before tax season because most services can be done on-line once an account is established."

Tax season, which is one of the busiest times of year for the comptroller squadron, is making it obvious how on-line support is replacing traditional customer service.

"The myPay Web site allows you to print off your W-2 and make tax exemption changes by completing a W-4 form

on-line," said Lieutenant Bravo.

Civilian payroll will be similarly affected and payroll managers are encouraging their customers to adapt to the virtual system.

"While (payroll services) can be accomplished through the civilian pay office, we highly encourage civilians to take advantage of the myPay Web site," said Ronda Shinsky, civilian pay technician. "It's easy to access (and with the site), you have more control over your pay."

While the goal is to expand on-line capabilities, not all financial services are currently available through the myPay Web site. In attempt to explain the system changes and their purpose and to educate members on the most efficient way to get their finance needs met, the comptroller squadron here has created the "FSO Roadshow."

"We send out a team of experts to squadrons around base to talk with Airmen about changes to the finance office that concern them specifically," Lieutenant Bravo said. "Instead of spending time out of their day to visit the finance office, Airmen can now accomplish many things from their desks and we want to educate them on exactly what those are."

The "FSO Roadshow" will address changes to the government travel card, travel entitlements, the Defense Travel System, Leaveweb, and myPay.

"We offer the 30-40 minute 'FSO Roadshow' brief to squadrons during commander's calls, informal meetings and supervisor gatherings or to groups



2nd Lt. Amanda Ferrell

**Staff Sgt. Jose Garcia, 325th Comptroller Squadron NCO in charge of the front desk, produces a W-4 tax withholding form for Staff Sgt. Michael Bailey, Headquarters Southeast Air Defense Sector aerospace control and warning systems technician. Finance services, including tax forms are available on-line.**

of Airmen, flight commanders or section chiefs," the lieutenant said.

Manpower shifts within Air Force support agencies will affect all Airmen and civilian personnel here. The comptroller squadron is taking a proactive stance, hoping that the briefings, newsletter and website they support will help make the transition seamless.

Additional locations are available for those seeking access to myPay or customer service around base. Touch-screen automated kiosks are located in the BX

and the Berg Liles Dining Facility. The kiosks offer access to myPay, Virtual MPF, LeaveWeb, the Defense Travel System and local Bay County and State of Florida informational Web sites.

"The satellite finance office is located on the flightline side in Bldg. 131 and is open every Wednesday from 2-6 p.m.," Lieutenant Bravo said.

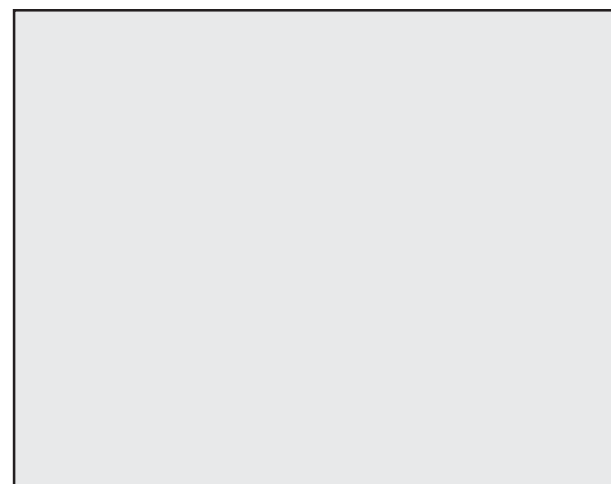
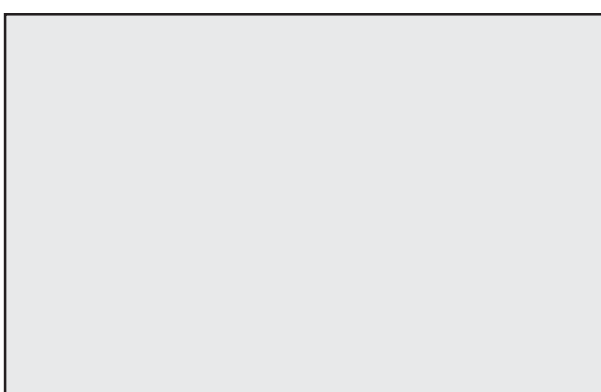
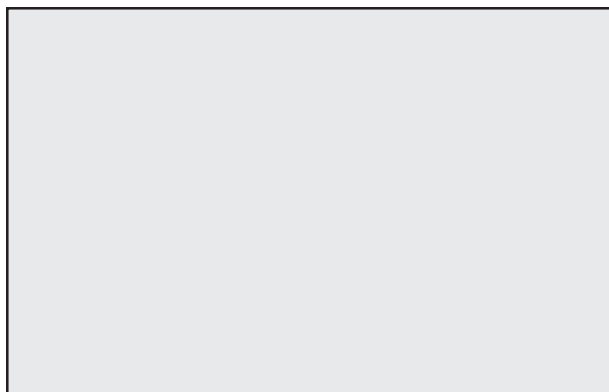
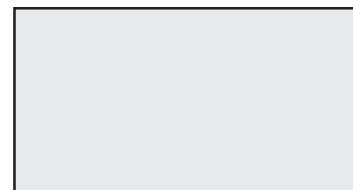
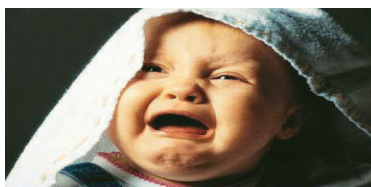
For more information on finance services, upcoming changes, or to request the "FSO Roadshow" brief, call the comptroller squadron at 283-8260.

**Did you miss past issues of the Gulf Defender?**

**Don't fret!**

**We're online:**

**[www.tyndall.af.mil/News/news.htm](http://www.tyndall.af.mil/News/news.htm)**





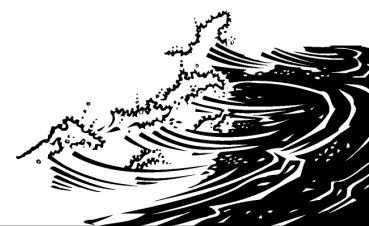
# Congratulations to Tyndall’s newest Airman Leadership School graduates!

(The following senior airmen graduated from ALS March 21)

Steven Beatty	325th CS	Travis Jordan	325th SFS
Jonathan Brannon	325th AMXS	Richard Kauffman	325th CS
Matthew Burch	325th AMXS	Justin Kitts	325th SFS
Daniel Clark	DET 2/28 TS	Shauna Lovevonknoblauch	325th MXS
Michael Clark	325th AMXS	Cheri Montanez	325th SFS
Matthew Cleveland	325th CS	Tania Ortiz	325th OSS
Tevis Denton	325th AMXS	Andrew Poist	325th AMXS
Thomas Dequeant	325th MXS	William Roberts	RED HORSE
Michael Drew	325th AMXS	Joshua Robinson	325th CS
Steven Fagan	325th AMXS	James Smith	81st RCS
Sean Finley	325th FW	Rowland Thagard	325th MXS
Evan Fish	325th ACS	Kelly Vanamburg	325th SFS
Joseph Freiesleben	325th SFS	Donna Whitney	325th OSS
Brian Giroud	325th AMXS	Carlie Williams	325th SFS
Derick Gooch	325th SFS	Cody Williams	325th AMXS
Andre Grant	325th OSS	Anthony Yon	325th AMXS
Beau Haertling	82nd ATS	<b>Award Winners</b>	
Thomas Haessly	325th AMXS	William Roberts - John L. Levitow	
Kenneth Harlan	325th AMXS	Cheri Montanez - Leadership Award	
Ryan Hautau	325th AMXS	Matthew Cleveland - Distinguished Graduate	
Latoya Hudson	325th OSS	Jason Hughes - DG	
Jason Hughes	325th CS	Richard Kauffman - DG and Academic Award	



# Funshine NEWS


[www.325thservices.com](http://www.325thservices.com)

 ☆ Log onto the **NEW & IMPROVED** Web site ☆

[www.325thservices.com](http://www.325thservices.com)

## FAMILY NIGHT AT THE PIZZA PUB


**Tuesday pizza buffet**
**5:30 - 7:30 p.m.**
**Adults - \$5.95**
**Children 12 and under - \$3.25**
**Children 4 and under - eat free**

For details, call 283-3222.

**Net, Match, Play!**  
**18 Hole Qualifier**
**April 15**

Low 32 net  
stroke play scores  
will qualify for the  
match play  
tournament.

For details, call 286-2565.


**GIVE  
PARENTS  
A BREAK**

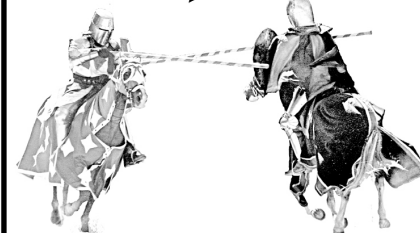
"Free child  
care  
during  
stressful  
times"

**April 7  
6 - 11 p.m.**

 Compliments of the  
Air Force Aid Society

For details, call 283-4747.

## Medieval Banquet

**May 5  
6 p.m.**

**\$12.50 per person**

Limited to 150

Club member only event

For details, call 283-4357.

## Attention Team Tyndall: Place a *free* classified ad in the Gulf Defender

Military classified ads are placed in the Gulf Defender on a space available basis. Ads must be for a one-time sale of personal goods and should include a complete description, 30 words or less, of item being sold. Forms must be turned in by 2 p.m. Thursday for publication in the following Friday's Gulf Defender. Completed forms can be dropped off or mailed to the 325th Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office at 445 Suwannee Rd. Ste. 129, Tyndall AFB, FL 32403, or faxed to 283-3225. Ads can also be sent in by e-mail to [checkertailmarket@tyndall.af.mil](mailto:checkertailmarket@tyndall.af.mil).

Rank/Name \_\_\_\_\_

Unit/Office Symbol \_\_\_\_\_

Duty Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**Item description (One ad per form)**

(30 words or less)

## We value your opinion!

*Take a couple of minutes to give us your thoughts on how we can make the Gulf Defender better:*

Did the front page grab your attention? Yes ☐ No ☐

Do you feel there is a good mix of local, command and Air Force-level news? Yes ☐ No ☐

Do the photos encourage you to read accompanied articles?

 Yes ☐ No ☐

Is the Gulf Defender easy to read and follow?

 Yes ☐ No ☐

What did you find most interesting in this week's paper? \_\_\_\_\_

If you could change one thing in the paper, what would it be? \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_



# ABU updates final, ready for production

**MASTER SGT. MITCH GETTLE**  
Air Force Print News

**WASHINGTON (AFP) –** The new Airman Battle Uniform is ready for production and will be available in fiscal 2007, said the Air Force deputy chief of staff of personnel.

Many factors were considered in developing the final uniform selection, with the concern for Airmen being at the top of the list, said Brig. Gen Robert R. Allardice.

“We were looking for a uniform that would be easier to maintain,” he said. “We wanted to provide a uniform that the Airman wouldn’t need to spend a lot of out-of-pocket expenses to maintain.”

Also, Airmen's feedback throughout the process was beneficial in adding new pockets on the uniform.

“We listened to the Airmen’s request where they wanted pockets to hold small tools and when they wear body armor the existing shirt pockets are not accessible or usable,” General Allardice said. “It will have the four pockets on the front of the shirt, and also a small pencil pocket on the left forearm and two pockets on the lower legs. In addition, inside the side pockets and inside of the breast pockets there will be smaller sewn-in pockets to hold small tools, flashlights or cell phones.”

The new uniform design is a pixilated tiger stripe with four soft

earth tones consisting of tan, grey, green and blue. The ABU will have a permanent crease and will be offered in 50-50 nylon-cotton blend permanent press fabric eliminating the need for winter and summer weight uniforms.

Will the new ABU need to be starched and pressed?

"Absolutely not," he said. "Our uniform requirement is we want a uniform that you wash, pull it out of the dryer, and wear it. This requirement meets the ease and cost effectiveness needs in maintaining a uniform."

He speaks from personal experience and added that in the long run it will save Airmen money on dry cleaning costs.

"I tested this uniform. I wash it, take it right out of the dryer and wear it," General Allardice said. "We don't want people putting an iron

The fit of the uniform was also a concern for Airmen.

“Were making them available in more sizes to fit the body better,” he said. “We’ve taken the time to produce more sizes and tailored them for men and women.”

Some other ABU accessory items include:

- A tan T-shirt will be worn; Air-  
men will be required to maintain one  
tan T-shirt with an Air Force logo  
on the front and Air Force written  
on the back.

—Suede cowhide boots in matching green-gray color; like the desert boot these will be polish-free and available in men's and women's sizes.

–The word color for the name, U.S. Air Force, and rank is midnight blue; nametapes and rank insignia background will be tan and will be sewn on using a matching tan color thread.

–The ABU adopts the battle dress uniform hat style for primary use and the floppy hat design will be used in some deployed areas.

"This is the uniform of the future," General Allardice said. "Eventually when enough of these uniforms are manufactured, we will phase out the BDU and desert uniforms."

The current projected mandatory wear date for the new ABU is fiscal 2011.

The only thing that needs to be determined is if patches will be worn and the Air Force chief of staff will make that determination soon, General Allardice said.



U.S. Air Force photo illustration

**The new Airman  
Battle Uniform.**



# Family matters introduces updated AF Crossroads Web site

STAFF SGT. JULIE WECKERLEIN  
Air Force News Service

WASHINGTON (AFP)—The Air Force A1 office of family matters will soon unveil its updated Air Force Crossroads Web site for Airmen and families to gather facts about installations, military moves, education and more.

Though the current site contains a lot of information, its many layers made the site difficult to navigate, said Brenda Liston, chief of Airmen and family readiness policy at the Pentagon.

“With the new site, the information is a lot more accessible,” she said. “It’s more user-friendly so that customers can sign in and begin surfing for information immediately.”

From employment resources to education and health to spouses’ forums, customers will be connected to links and other resources geared to the military lifestyle.

As one of the 200,000 current account holders, Air Force spouse Holli Daniels said she’s glad to see the site’s improvements.

She became very familiar with the site when she was engaged to her now-husband, Capt. Michael Daniels, 355th Comptrollers Squadron at Davis-

Monthan Air Force Base, Ariz. Having grown-up in a Midwest city with little military influence, she had no idea what to expect about life in the military until her fiancée showed her the Air Force Crossroads Web site.

“I was brand new to the military,” she said. “I mainly used the site as a connection tool with other spouses. I remember when Mike and I were putting a dream list together, I got on the [spouses’] forum to try and find out about the bases and where we should go.”

She said at the time, access was a little difficult since she was not yet officially part of the military, but “I was able to find through the site other resources that were helpful.”

Ms. Liston said the dot-com address allows those not familiar with the military to gain insight into how things work for families.

“Anyone can access the site, such as grandparents and friends of the family, and learn more about life in the Air Force,” Ms. Liston said. “While some of the specific sites, such as installations, will require an account name and password, it’s now much easier for all users

to get what they need.”

Two new options on the site include the ability to compare installations with side-by-side pop-up windows and signing up for newsletters that will be sent directly to the individual. The site also remains committed to a Total Force concept.

“The site will continue to give information for the Guard and Reserve Airmen and families, too,” Ms. Liston said.

Based on feedback and analysis, the new Web site was built to address the ever-changing needs of the military family, including helping former Airmen find employment outside the gates. Employers looking to specifically employ former Airmen have recently been contacting the Crossroads Web site. Those recruitment announcements are also included in the job banks on the new Web site.

“You could say that our changing times have dictated our need to change the site,” she said. “But the need to get information out to the families remains the same, and that’s our goal.”



**Preview the new AF Crossroads Web site at [new.afcrossroads.com](http://new.afcrossroads.com) before it goes online April 1.**

